

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ELIZABETH SARAH ZAPLER, an  
individual,

Plaintiff,

vs.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY; and DOES  
1 through 50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:24-CV-02920-WLH-JPR

**JUDGMENT**

**JS-6**

TO THE COURT, ALL PARTIES, AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:


Plaintiff Elizabeth Sarah Zapler accepted Defendant Ford Motor Company's Offer of Judgment Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 68 on May 17, 2024. Per the terms of the Rule 68 offer, Ford has agreed to pay Plaintiff and their current counsel of record the sum of \$65,000.00 in restitution and includes a provision allowing Plaintiff to seek an award of reasonable attorneys' fees, expenses, and costs, if any, reasonably incurred in connection with this action in an amount to be determined by the Court. Ford expressly reserves all defenses to any fee or cost motion and any award thereon.

1 Plaintiff will deliver the subject vehicle to Ford no later than 60 days after the  
2 acceptance of the offer.

3 Accordingly, the Court enters JUDGMENT in favor of Plaintiff in the amount  
4 of \$65,000 pursuant to the terms of the Rule 68 offer attached hereto as Exhibit A.

5 IT IS SO ORDERED.

6  
7 Dated: September 24, 2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wesley L. Hsu  
U.S. District Judge

# EXHIBIT A

AMY MACLEAR (SBN 215638)  
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Attorneys for Defendant  
FORD MOTOR COMPANY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ELIZABETH SARAH ZAPLER,  
Plaintiffs,  
vs.  
FORD MOTOR COMPANY; and DOES  
1 through 50, inclusive,  
Defendants.

Case No. 2:24-cv-02920-WLH-JPR

**DEFENDANT FORD MOTOR  
COMPANY'S OFFER OF JUDGMENT  
PURSUANT TO FEDERAL RULE OF  
CIVIL PROCEDURE 68**

**TO PLAINTIFF AND PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the provisions of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 68, Defendant Ford Motor Company ("Ford") hereby offers to allow judgment to be taken against it as follows:

1           1.     Plaintiff ELIZABETH SARAH ZAPLER (“Plaintiff”), will surrender the  
2     2018 Ford Escape (VIN No. 1FMCU0HD3JUD5984) (“Subject Vehicle”), with clear  
3     title, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, other than any outstanding loan  
4     amounts, which Ford will discharge by payment from the proceeds of the settlement  
5     that Plaintiffs accept pursuant to this offer. Plaintiffs will deliver the subject vehicle to  
6     Ford on a date, time and place mutually agreeable no later than 60 days after the  
7     Plaintiffs’ counsel has accepted the Offer of Judgment.

8           2.     Ford will pay Plaintiff and their current counsel of record the sum of  
9     \$65,000.00 in restitution. This amount is in compromise of Plaintiff’s claims, and it  
10    may be more or less than Plaintiff would recover if Plaintiff’s claims are tried in court.

11          3.     Plaintiff will prepare and file a proposed judgment within 14 days after  
12    accepting this offer. The judgment will include a provision allowing Plaintiff to seek  
13    an award of reasonable attorneys’ fees, expenses and costs, if any, reasonably incurred  
14    in connection with this action in an amount to be determined by the Court. Ford  
15    expressly reserves all defenses to Plaintiff’s fee/costs motion(s) and any award  
16    thereon.

17          4.     This Statutory Offer is inclusive of all damages, restitution, costs,  
18    attorney fees, expenses, penalties, prejudgment interest, postjudgment interest, and  
19    any other sums or amounts or claims that have been asserted by Plaintiffs in this  
20    action. If this Statutory Offer is accepted, Plaintiff shall not be entitled to any legal or  
21    equitable remedy against Ford except as specified in this offer.

22          6.     Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 68, this Statutory Offer  
23    can be accepted by signing a statement that the offer is accepted. Set forth below is a  
24    statement indicating acceptance of this Statutory Offer that may be signed by counsel  
25    for Plaintiff. If this Statutory Offer to compromise is not accepted and notice given by  
26    Plaintiff within the 14 day time period provided by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure  
27    Rule 68, then it shall be deemed withdrawn.

7. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 68, if this Statutory Offer is not accepted and Plaintiff fails to obtain a more favorable judgment Plaintiff shall not recover post-offer costs, including attorney fees from the date of this Statutory Offer, and shall be required to pay Ford's costs from the time of the offer. Further, the Court, in its discretion, may require Plaintiff to pay a reasonable sum to cover Ford's post-offer costs of the services of Ford's expert witnesses, who are not regular employees of any party, actually incurred and reasonably necessary in either, or both, the preparation or trial of this case by Ford.

Dated: May 3, 2024

Respectfully submitted,  
SHOOK, HARDY & BACON L.L.P.

By: 

AMY MACLEAR  
NAOKI S. KANEKO  
KARA M. FLAGEOLLET

Attorneys for Defendant  
FORD MOTOR COMPANY

We hereby accept the above offer on the terms stated on behalf of Plaintiff.

Dated: May 17, 2024

CONSUMER LAW EXPERTS, PC

By: 

CAREY WOOD  
LARA ROGERS

Attorneys for Plaintiff  
ELIZABETH SARAH ZAPLER